GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4442
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
LOSS OF EYES DUE TO NEGLIGENCE OF DOCTORS
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have noticed the cases of lost of eyes by the patients during the operation due to negligence of doctors in the country;

(b) if so, the details of cases noticed so far by the Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have directed the State Governments to probe the incidents through CBI/CID inquiries;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the respective State Governments thereon; and

(e) the manner in which the Union Government are satisfied with the result of said inquiries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 4442 for answer on 21st August, 2000.

Cases of loss of eye during cataract surgery as reported by the State Govt. during the last three years are given below :-

Maharashtra	32
Kerala	24
Andhra Pradesh	24
Orissa	06
Uttar Pradesh	04
Gujarat	10

The respective State government conducted enquiries into their incidents and necessary action was taken against official responsible for their mishaps. In Maharashtra, our ophthalmic surgeons were transferred and para-medical staff was suspended. Civil Assistant Surgeon in Andhra Pradesh has been placed under suspension. Medical Officer incharge of concerned PHC in Uttar Pradesh was suspended and strict warning was issued to operating eye Surgeon. The mishaps in Orissa and Kerala did not occur due to negligence of doctors. To prevent such mishaps in the future. Government of India issued technical guidelines to the States regarding norms and standards to be maintained in eye camps and fixed facilities providing eye care services for strict compliance. Monitoring and supervision of the services have also been strengthened through use of standard surgical records, setting up of Sentinel Surveillance Units in various parts of the country and independent review of programme activities.